

Remarks

Claims 1-16, 19 and 21-28 were pending.

Claims 19 and 21-24 are withdrawn.

Claims 2-15, 24 and 27 are original.

Claims 1, 16, 25, 26 and 28 are as previously presented.

Claims 1-16 and 25-28 are currently under consideration.

Claims 1-16 and 25-28 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over Ikeda et.al., EP 0557721 in view of Rotzinger et.al., US 5,955,522. Ikeda teaches β -nucleating agents in polypropylene but not the nucleating agents of instant formula I. Rotzinger teaches piperidine light stabilizers that are deemed by the Examiner to overlap with the compounds of instant claim 1.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections.

The compound of Rotzinger that is closest to the nucleating agents of the instant invention is compound 83) in column 35. Applicants respectfully note that the compound 83) differs from the compounds incorporating substructure (II-a-1) of instant claim 1 in several ways. For example, compound 83 is a polymer. Polymers are not included in the instant claims. Also, even if compound 83 were not a polymer, the substituent on the piperidyl nitrogen of compound 83, that is the substituent correlating with R1 in the instant claims, is either a amino substituted alkyl or an amido substituted alkyl, neither of which is included in instant R1.

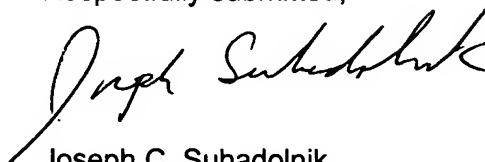
Applicants also respectfully note that Ikeda does not teach the hindered amine containing bis-amides of the instant invention.

Applicants respectfully submit that the combined art fails to meet the limitations of the instant claims nor does the art direct one to Applicants invention. Applicants therefore respectfully ask the Examiner to withdraw the rejections of claims 1-16 and 25-28 and kindly ask that said claims be found allowable.

Applicants also kindly ask that upon finding claims 1-16 and 25-28 allowable the Examiner reconsider and rejoin claims 19 and 21-14 as these claims contain all the limitations of claim 1.

In the event that minor amendments will further prosecution, Applicants request that the examiner contact the undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph C. Suhadolnik". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Joseph C. Suhadolnik
Agent for Applicants
Reg. No. 56,880
filed under 37 CFR 1.34(a)

Ciba Specialty Chemicals Corporation
Patent Department
540 White Plains Road
P.O. Box 2005
Tarrytown, NY 10591-9005
Tel. (914) 785-2973
Fax (914) 785-7102